I sat this morning listening to Madame de

j
Talartu She is just as you left her, dressed in a

;
heap as usual, and *politiquant* at a great rate. She
,f
lives in a very decent house, Rue de Bacq.

[
You have no idea of the dearness of this

|
place. I assure you I am obliged to calculate with
|
my two pounds a day. They ask a louis d'or for a coach and coachman per day, and dinners are extremely dear.

I am assured d'Alvimar was not put to death for any letter of mine.

Poor Kellet, the monk, has been reduced to want a morsel of bread during the scarcity, and drank only water.

Sir Sidney Smith is assisted in the conveyance of his letters, &c., by two youngish women, who say it has been the business of their lives to assist prisoners. They take no money.

November 29th, 1796.

I fear the affair of Sir S. Smith will not succeed. Since Lord Malmesbury gave in a note declaring it to be the intention of our Government to retaliate, the business has taken a *mauvaise*